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Message Text

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22
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 EB-07 FAA-00 DOTE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 /087 W
---------- 107493
R 031733Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1584
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN
CINC USAFE RAMSTEIN
CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG
USELM LIVE OAK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 14851

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, EAIR, WB, FR, UK, US
SUBJECT: RUMORED SOUTH CORRIDOR TRAFFIC REDUCTION

REF: BONN 13904 AND PREVIOUS

1. CONTINUING UNCERTAINTY AS TO POSSIBLE IMPACT OF EXERCISE COLD FIRE ON SOUTH CORRIDOR AIR TRAFFIC PROMPTED EMB CAA TO CONVENE MEETING AT EMBASSY ON SEPTEMBER 2. PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED UK CAA AND REPRESENTATIVES OF USAFE, FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION FOR AIR AND NAVIGATION SERVICES (BFS) AND FEDERAL MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (FMT).

2. US CAA CALLED ATTENTION TO POLITICAL OBJECTIVE OF AVOIDING CREATION OF PRECEDENT FOR SOVIETS TO CITE
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LATER THAT ALL OR MOST NORMAL SOUTHERN CORRIDOR TRAFFIC

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WAS REROUTED TO MEET NEEDS OF MILITARY EXERCISE.

3. IT WAS EXPLAINED BY BOTH USAFE AND GERMAN REPS THAT OUTBOUND TRAFFIC FROM BERLIN WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED AT ALL, NOR WOULD INBOUND TRAFFIC FROM MUNICH, NURNBERG AND STUTTGART, ALL OF WHICH WOULD USE THE SOUTHERN CORRIDOR AS USUAL. IT HAD BEEN PLANNED, HOWEVER, TO INSTRUCT (NOT BY NOTAM, BUT ORALLY) ALL COMMERCIAL TRAFFIC FROM FRANKFURT TO BERLIN TO USE THE CENTRAL CORRIDOR FOR TECHNICAL REASONS WHICH WERE CLEARLY EXPLAINED AND WERE ACCEPTED BY ALL PARTICIPANTS.

4. AFTER ALL PARTICIPANTS HAD EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING OF THE POLITICAL PROBLEM, IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES COULD RELEASE SOME OF THE HIGHER ALTITUDES OF THE RESTRICTED AREA DURING EVENING HOURS, WHICH WOULD PERMIT ROUTING SOME COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS EACH DAY FROM FRANKFURT TO BERLIN THROUGH THE SOUTHERN CORRIDOR.

5. THE USAFE REP UNDERTOOK TO EXPLORE THIS POSSIBILITY. HE REPORTED SEPTEMBER 3 THAT HE HAD CONTACTED THE GORDIAN SHIELD AIR SPACE MANAGER (4ATAF) AND MORPHA CONTROL AND THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED THAT EXERCISE AIRSPACE NOT BEING UTILIZED WOULD BE RETURNED TO FRANKFURT CONTROL.

6. US CAA, AFTER CONSULTING WITH BRITISH AND FRENCH COLLEAGUES, HAS SENT REQUEST TO FOREIGN OFFICE "THAT, IF FUTURE MILITARY EXERCISES MIGHT AFFECT CORRIDOR USAGE, THE THREE CIVIL AIR ATTACHES BE INFORMED EARLY IN THE PLANNING STAGE". FOREIGN OFFICE HAS UNDERTAKEN TO COMPLY.

7. COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT FOREGOING IS RESULT OF COMMENDABLE COOPERATIVE EFFORT ON ALL SIDES AND IS BEST SOLUTION POSSIBLE AT THIS STAGE. EMB WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH USAFE AND BFS IN PLANNING FOR NEXT YEAR'S EXERCISE.
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